

MAURY ISLAND OPEN SPACE PLANNING ADVISORY GROUP

OCTOBER 10, 2012 MEETING NOTES

STAFF UPDATES

Agreed Order (Order) between the Washington State Department of Ecology and King County regarding remediation (soil cleanup) requirements of the site

Order was signed by Executive Constantine in late September and submitted to Ecology on October 5th. The King County Council had approved an ordinance authorizing the Executive to sign the order. Ecology will conduct a 30 day comment/review period (currently proposed to be from mid November to mid December) on the Order. At this point Ecology is not planning on holding a ;public meeting during the review period since they and King County held a joint public meeting on remediation requirements in April 2012 and are providing additional information to the Planning Advisory Group at tonight's meeting. But, Ecology is open to holding an additional meeting if requested. Connie connected Meg Bommarito, Ecology's Public Involvement Coordinator and Amy Carey, Preserve Our Islands, to discuss interest in a meeting. Connie is also providing Meg mailing lists to help direct public notification.

King County has completed a Remedial Action Grant application for submission to Ecology to help fund costs of soil cleanup. Ecology had encouraged King County to apply, grant is due no later than 60 days after date Ecology signs the Agreed Order, date Order is effective". Grant requires a 50% match in funds by King County.

OVERVIEW OF THE REMEDIATION (SOIL CLEANUP) PROCESS

Jim Neely, Program Manager with King County Solid Waste (and King County Park' project manager for soil cleanup) and Ron Timm, Senior Hydrogeologist (and Ecology's site manager for Maury Island Open Space Site's remediation) provided an overview of the process. (See: *PowerPoint Presentation Summary, Remediation Process Timeline and FAQs for the remediation process/requirements; all documents were distributed via email and in hard copy at meeting*)

It is important to note that soil cleanup is necessary for both the cleanup of soils contaminated by the Tacoma Asarco Smelter as well as a result of the former shooting range located on the portion of the property north of SW 260th. E Remedial Investigation (RI) reports and RI/ Feasibility Reports for the site are available on Ecology's web page for the site, see "Department of Ecology Cleanup" link from King County's web page at:

<http://www.kingcounty.gov/recreation/parks/naturalresources/naturallands/mauryislandsite.aspx>

Connie stressed that Ecology and King County are working closely in their public participation efforts, to present to the public a seamless, coordinated process for both site management planning and cleanup.

The following questions/answers were discussed:

Is Asarco or Cal Portland (formerly NW Aggregates/Glacier) a Potentially Liable Party (PLP) under the Agreed Order?

No. Only King County is a PLP, this was determined during the County's acquisition process and in coordination with Ecology. Ecology officially determined the County's PLP status on April 18, 2011. The Purchase and Sale Agreement between the County and Cal Portland clarified the County was responsible for cleanup (Cal Portland agreed to helping fund up to \$500,000 of cleanup costs once the County incurs certain costs during a specific timeframe). In addition, the appraisal of the property addressed soil contamination.

Why is cleanup being required on this site and not other County Park properties on Vashon Maury Island?

Consistent with Ecology's Final Action Plan for Tacoma Smelter Plume (July 2012), soil cleanup is occurring in areas where children are at highest risk of exposure, such as day cares, playgrounds, etc. In September Ecology began cleanup of the play area at the County's Dockton Park. In addition, Ecology and King County had initiated efforts for a voluntary cleanup at Maury Island Marine Park, but due to limited development, the County did not proceed with that effort, nor did Ecology require cleanup. Remediation at Maury Island Open Space site is being required due to the Asarco Settlement funds provided by Ecology to help acquire the site, the presence of contamination from dual sources (Asarco Smelter and the former shooting range) and because King County inherited cleanup requirements when they acquired the site from CalPortland.

What actions can the County take on site presently?

King County has provided a list of "maintenance" tasks that it needs to do to keep the site safe and address any potential liability issues, the goal being to not take actions that disturb the soil. Ecology will provide more detailed direction after the Agreed Order is in effect, and additional prescriptive direction in the draft and final cleanup plans.

What criteria will be used to determine cleanup requirements?

Factors considered will be such things as extent/level of contamination, risk of exposure and type of disturbance being proposed (frequency/type of public use, level of disturbance). In addition final cleanup level standards will need to be determined.

What options are available to remediate the site?

The specific options to be used have not yet been determined but they include such things as soil removal and hauling off site, soil removal and storage on site, soil capping and institutional controls.

What are examples of institutional controls?

Fencing, signage, closing portions of the site to public access.

If soils are removed from the site where would they be taken?

Likely to Cedar Hills Landfill, that facility accepts soils contaminated at the level present on this site.

Are there some areas that are less contaminated than others?

Yes, initial testing indicates that the mined areas have less contamination.

How deep is the contamination?

Primarily in the top 4 inches but this varies throughout the site.

Will areas left “undisturbed” be “exempt” from any cleanup requirements?

No, not necessarily, a remediation plan will be developed for the entire cleanup site.

If forest stewardship activities are planned, will that trigger need for prior cleanup?

The cleanup plan will be based on the County’s management plan for the site, if forest management practices are being proposed; they should be addressed in the management plan. Consideration will be given to the ecological impact associated removal of trees that would be required to do soil remediation in forested areas, however.

Is cost of remediation a consideration?

The Feasibility Study required as part of the remediation process will assess costs as one of the factors. Cost of hauling soils of site vs. storing on site is one example that will be evaluated.

Is the King County Dockton Forest Site (adjacent to the Maury Island Open Space Site) included in the Agreed Order?

No.

Can some actions on site be taken prior to the final cleanup plan being developed?

Yes, such actions could be approved by Ecology based on levels of contamination on areas proposed for disturbance. This may require additional testing to occur in the proposed impact area and may need to be addressed through an interim action plan (which also involves a public involvement process)

How were the “decision units” referred to in the reports based?

On contamination levels

Could gravel on site be used for capping trails?

This is a possibility that will be considered.

The time period the Site Management Plan will cover is approximately 5 to 10 years. Will there need to be another remediation process and cleanup plan if actions are being proposed after that time period?

Yes, that is a possibility but will be based on level/extent of cleanup that will be required as part of the current Agreed Order.

Restoration needed on site is extensive due to former mining operations and DDES is waiting to finalize remediation requirements until further progress is made to determine reclamation requirements. How detailed will the Site Management Plan need to be about proposed restoration?

A description of the areas being proposed should be provided ("footprint" can be shown visually on a map) along with species to be planted, details on specific methods to be used is not necessary.

DISCUSSION ON SITE MANAGEMENT PLAN/GUIDELINES REQUIREMENTS

Connie reminded attendees that she had again distributed the management plan/guidelines template and that particular attention should be given to the section on Public Use. She also noted she had sent out the link to Island Center Forest Site management Guideline (Plan) as an example of how we might develop recommendations for Maury Island Open Space Site. DISCUSSION ON PUBLIC USE RECOMMENDATIONS

Connie referred folks to handout that included considerations about public use amenity recommendations and noted that Amy Carey and DDES staff will be providing information in subsequent meetings about critical area, shoreline, impervious surface and drainage regulations that affect/guide development. (Amy had last minute conflict so was not able to attend tonight's meeting). . In addition, WADNR has offered to attend future meeting to talk about dock removal requirements/options for retaining some portion of the dock

Group brainstormed recommendations for:

- trails to be retained, relocated, decommissioned, constructed, or mapped
- types of uses allowed on trails
- locations for parking/picnic/water access/viewpoint areas
- how to sign/map/create kiosk info about trails to guide/inform use

Group's recommendations were noted on map and will be used to guide future discussion.

SITE NAMING

Limited discussion due to lack of time. Consensus of group was that site should have its own distinct name. Connie reminded attendees that:

- Current name is “placeholder” so official name could be designated
- Due to purpose of site and funding sources used to acquire the site, it is most appropriate to call it “Natural Area” rather than “Park”.
- King County Park naming policies direct that natural areas be named after natural feature (or geographic area) where feasible and that parks are not named after living people.
- Site name can be made official when Site Management Plan is approved recommending the name or via Council Ordinance.

DISCUSSION OF NEED FOR MORE FREQUENT MEETINGS/SUBGROUPS

It was determined that an additional meeting will be held to focus on finalizing public use recommendations; date/time/location confirmed as follows: Wednesday, October 24, 6 to 8 PM, McMurray Middle School Library.

NOVEMBER MEETING:

Wednesday, November 14th, 6 to 8 PM, McMurray Middle School Library. Final agenda to be distributed. later.